"An appropriate seed programme to rapidly multiply consistently high quality seeds for wide distribution to farmers will be established."

(c) and (d) While the Government of India do not have information in regard to the yield per acre of individual farmers who are growing tomatoes under the Pepsi expertise, it has been reported by *M/s.* Punjab Agro Industries Corporation that some of the farmers who are cultivating tomatoes under the contract growing programme of Pepsi Foods Private Ltd. have got yields in excess of 30 tonnes per acre.

(e) The manufacture of soft drinks concerntrate by M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Ltd. will be governed by the conditions in the letter of Intent.

ASSOCHAM Suggestions for increasing Exports

*334. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREM JI KENIA: SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received a letter dated the 8th May. 1990 from the President of ASSOCHAM suggesting steps to increase exports;

(b) if so. what are the major recommendations made therein;

(c) how much increase in exports in terms of money is anticipated five years from now if these recommendations are put into effect; and

(d) what action Government propose to take on the above recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Major recommendations made by the ASSOCHAM include diversification of export structure; strengthening of infrastructural facilities; expansion of amount of pre-shipment or post-shipment credit, CCS, duty draw-back etc; stability in fiscal policies be ensured for five years to increase export of agro-industrial products; duty free import of plant and equipment for export production of agro-industrial items; adequate and regular flow of funds to Engineering Export Promotion Council to settle IPRS claims of engineering industry; encouraging leather imports by Government agencies for supply to manufacturer-exporter, etc.

(c) As exports are affected by various national and international factors and the suggestions made by ASSOCHAM are quite general in nature, it is difficult to quantify the additional exports that would accrue as a result of these suggestions.

(d) The Government is already aware of the needs of the exporters and the problems faced by them. However the suggestions made by ASSOCHAM have been noted for implementation to the extent possible under the overall strategy of the Government on export promotion.

Raising of incidental credit facilities for farmers, landless workers and artisans

*335. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to raise incidental credit facilities up to 50 per cent under a time bound programme in favour of small and marginal farmers as also landless workers and artisans; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Members desire to know whether the banks' lending to small and marginal farmers, landless cultivators and artisans would be accelerated to achieve a prescribed target. In this connection, it may be stated that banks have been asked to raise the proportion of their credit to priority sector to 40% of their

net bank credit; 18% of the total credit in respect of direct finance extented to agriculture (including allied activities) by March, 1990; and the advances to weaker section, which, includes small and marginal farmers and landless cultivators and artisans, are to reach a level of 10% of total credit or 25% of the priority sector advances. Against the above targets, public sector banks as a whole have extended 44.3% of their total advances to priority sector as at the end of December, 1989. With regard to direct finance to agriculture, these banks have extended 16.6% of their total advances as at the end of December, 1989. So far as advances to weaker sections are concerned, these banks have, extended 10.8% of their total advances and 24.5% of their total priority sector advances to weaker sections by the end of December, 1989.

Plan for the betterment of the conditions of weavers in U.P.

*336. KUMARI ALIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent a plan for the betterment of the conditions of weavers in the State;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps are contemplated by the Government of India to protect these weavers from the middlemen for regular and proper supply of yarn and other raw material and to assure adequate wages for them; and

(d) what are the details of the financial assistance given to the State Government for the development of weavers during the last three years, year-wise and to be provided during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House *[See* appendix CLIV, annexure No 72]

Setting up of an academy for training judicial officials

*337 SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUTTINAN:
SHRl V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3046 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August. 1989 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision on the recommendation made by the Law Commission in its 117th Report and submitted to Government about the setting up of an academy for training of judicial officers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative the stage at which the proposal rests at present?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):(a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to set up an Academy for the training of Judicial Officers.

(b) The details are being worked out in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

(c) does not arise.

Directives issued to banks to establish SC/ST cells

*338. SHRI. SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: